

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-13 and 15-29 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-7, 9-13 and 15-16 are amended, and claims 2 and 14 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Applicant appreciates and thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5, 15, 17, 27 and 29 contain allowable subject matter. However, for reasons discussed below, it is believed that all of the claims are allowable.

Applicant also appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Kapadia in the July 11 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 6-9, 13-14, 18-24 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Kasiraj et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,138); rejects claims 8, 10, 12 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kasiraj in view of Garfunkel (U.S. Patent No. 6,325,947); and rejects claims 11, 16 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kasiraj in view of Kimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,520,409). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, neither Kasiraj, Garfunkel or Kimoto, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest a conductor applying an electric current to the heater through the yokes to generate heat, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 13.

Kasiraj instead discloses, at col. 6, lines 3-10 the write poles P1 and P2 carry electrical current to the resistive heater 20' and to use the magnetic films P1 and P2 as electrical leads, which are electrically separated at the back of the write head yoke Y by a thin dielectric film 60. See also Fig. 5B.

During the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that Kasiraj's Fig. 6 appears to show that leads 50' and 52' carry current to the resistive heater through the yoke Y. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims recite a pair of yokes and a conductor applying the electric current to the heater through the yokes. Kasiraj does not disclose or suggest this feature because Kasiraj discloses only a single yoke.

Neither Garfunkel nor Kimoto compensate for the above-noted deficiencies of Kasiraj.

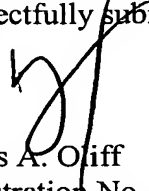
Therefore, independent claims 1 and 13 define patentable subject matter. Claims 3-12 and 15-29 depend from the respective independent claims, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-13 and 15-29 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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